

Docket No. F-7322

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 CFR 1.116  
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE  
EXAMINING GROUP 1744****IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant : Thomas NIEHR, et al.  
Serial No. : 10/089,271  
Filed : September 3, 2002  
For : METHOD FOR STERILIZING PET BOTTLES  
Group Art Unit : 1744  
Examiner : Monzer R. Chorbaji  
Confirmation No. : 5161  
Customer No. : 000028107

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Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**AMENDMENT AFTER FINAL REJECTION UNDER 37 CFR 1.116**

Sir:

In response to the final Office Action of November 30, 2004, entry of the present amendment effecting claim amendments to place the application into

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condition for allowance or remove issues from appeal, if required, is respectfully requested. Please amend the above-identified patent application as follows: